DARK HORSE COMICS
Emily the Strange®
#3
REVENGE ISSUE
$3.50
RAWR
REVENGE at last!
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Emily® the Strange

the REVENGE issue

Number #3

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DARK HORSE COMICS

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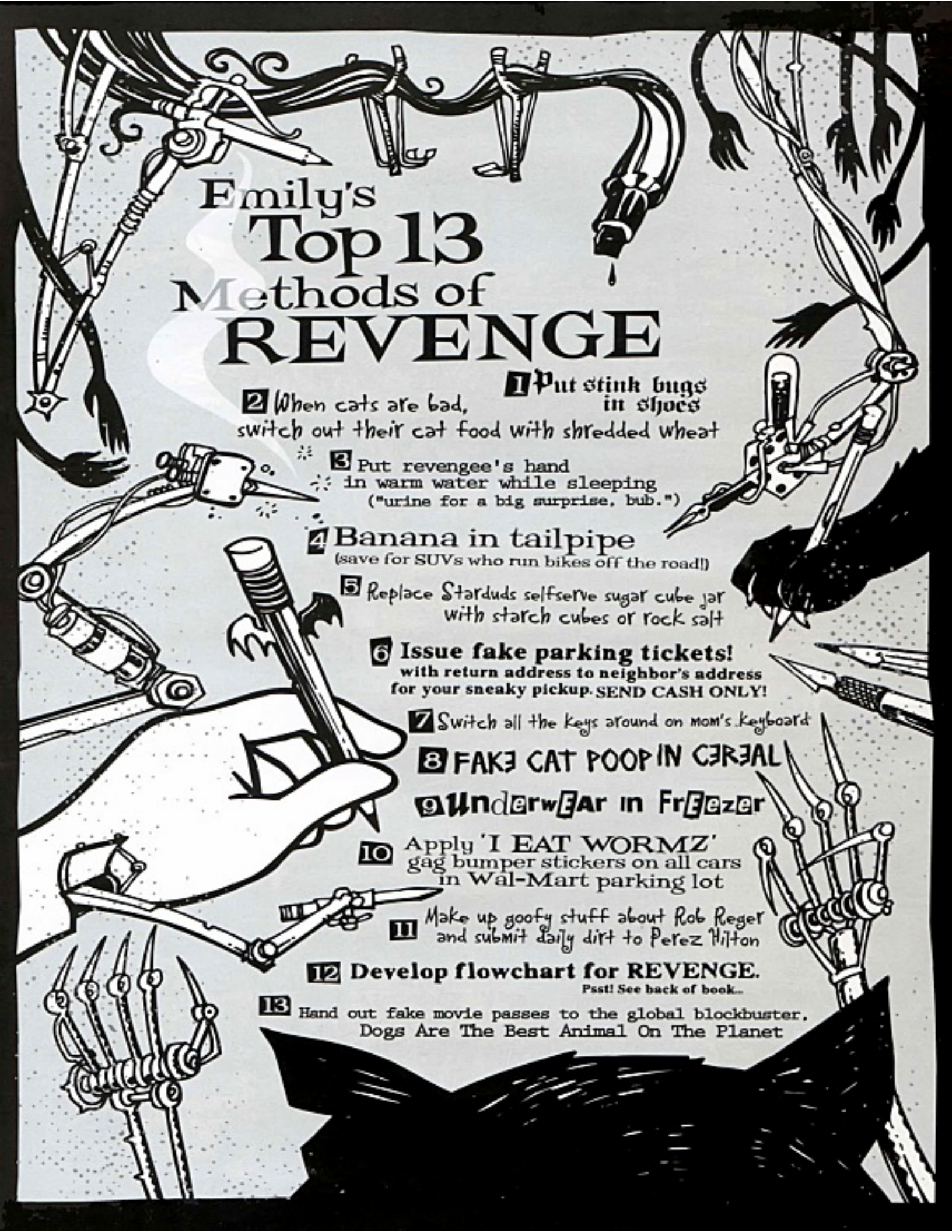
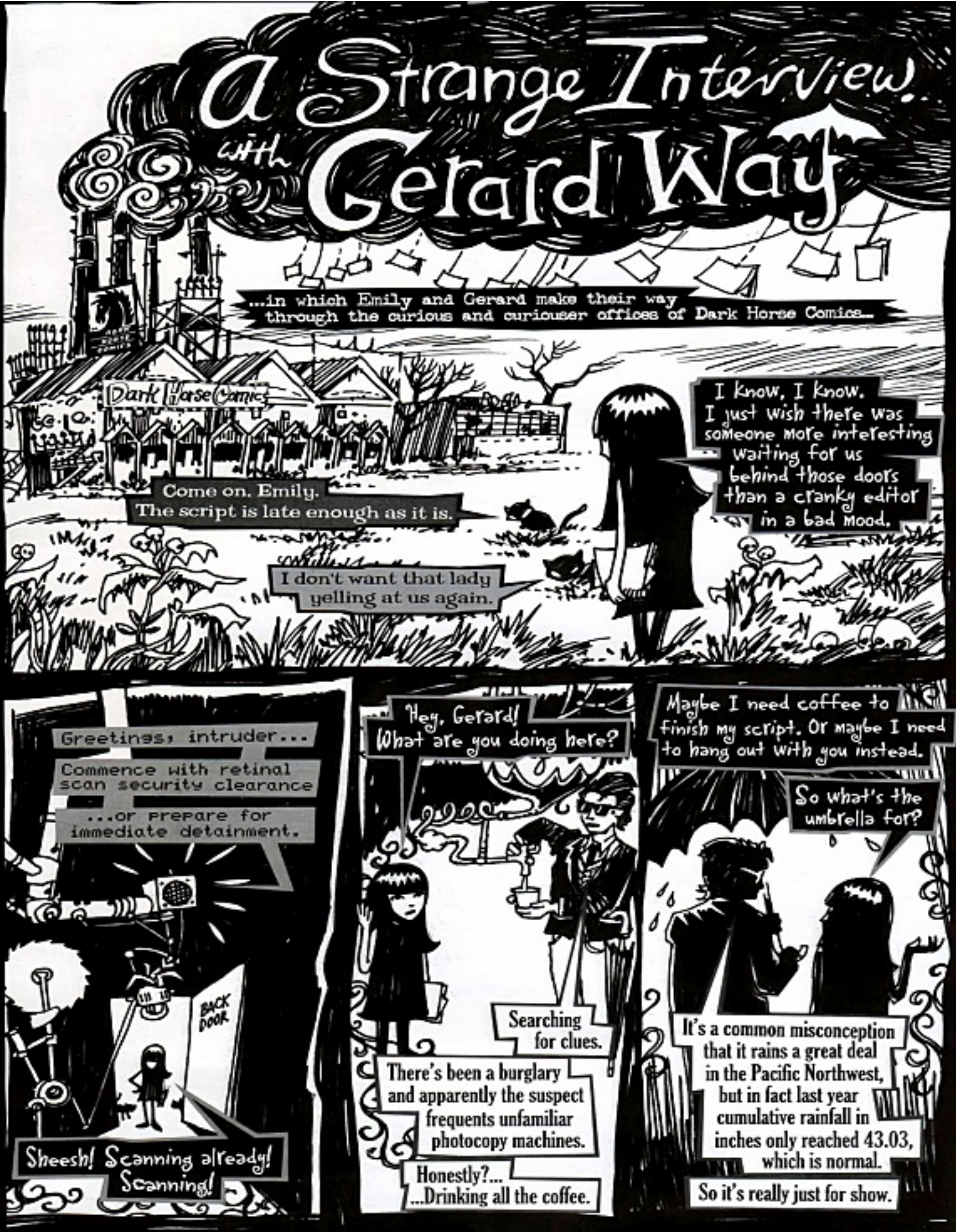
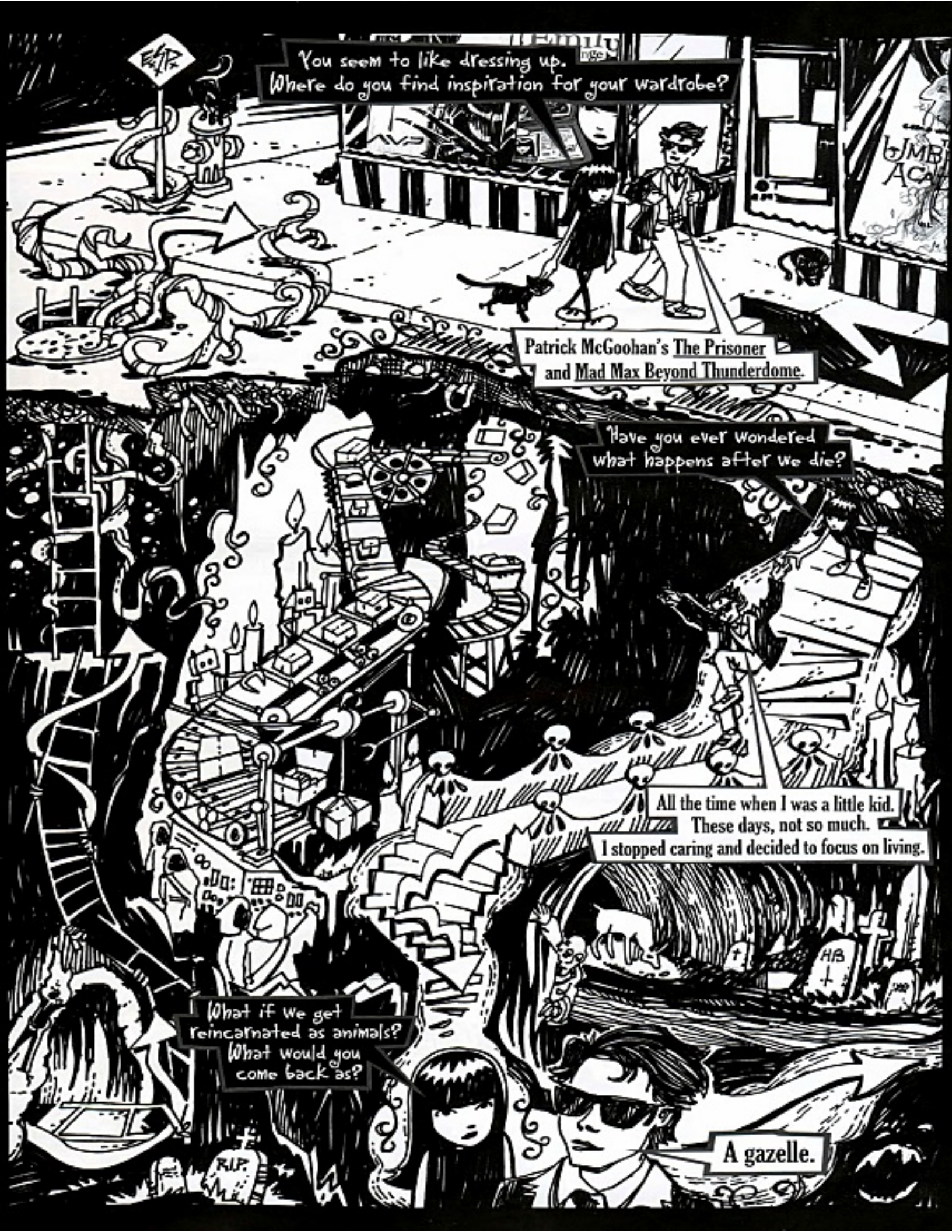
City of Others courtesy Bernie Wrightson and Steve Niles. *Criminal Macabre* courtesy Steve Niles. *Umbrella Academy* courtesy Gerard Way.


Emily's
Top 13
Methods of
REVENGE
1 Put stink bugs in shoes
2 When cats are bad, switch out their cat food with shredded wheat
3 Put revengee's hand in warm water while sleeping ("urine for a big surprise, bub.")
4 Banana in tailpipe (save for SUVs who run bikes off the road!)
5 Replace Starduds selfserve sugar cube jar with starch cubes or rock salt
6 Issue fake parking tickets! with return address to neighbor's address for your sneaky pickup. SEND CASH ONLY!
7 Switch all the keys around on mom's keyboard
8 FAKE CAT POOP IN CEREAL
9 UnderwEAr in FrEezer
10 Apply 'I EAT WORMZ' gag bumper stickers on all cars in Wal-Mart parking lot
11 Make up goofy stuff about Rob Reger and submit daily dirt to Perez Hilton
12 Develop flowchart for REVENGE. Psst! See back of book...
13 Hand out fake movie passes to the global blockbuster, Dogs Are The Best Animal On The Planet


A Strange Interview with Gerard Way
...in which Emily and Gerard make their way through the curious and curiouser offices of Dark Horse Comics...
Dark Horse Comics
Come on, Emily. The script is late enough as it is.
I don't want that lady yelling at us again.
I know, I know. I just wish there was someone more interesting waiting for us behind those doors than a cranky editor in a bad mood.
Greetings, intruder...
Commence with retinal scan security clearance
...or prepare for immediate detainment.
LIN LU
BACK DOOR
Sheesh! Scanning already! Scanning!
Hey, Gerard! What are you doing here?
Searching for clues.
There's been a burglary and apparently the suspect frequents unfamiliar photocopy machines.
Honestly?... ...Drinking all the coffee.
Maybe I need coffee to finish my script. Or maybe I need to hang out with you instead.
So what's the umbrella for?
It's a common misconception that it rains a great deal in the Pacific Northwest, but in fact last year cumulative rainfall in inches only reached 43.03, which is normal.
So it's really just for show.

THE UMBRELLA ACADEMY
So, why comics?
Because anything is possible...
...right now, if we wanted, we could load up on laser guns, hop on an interdimensional motorcycle, and save the universe from giant invisible tarantulas. In real life? Not so much.
What's the strangest thing you've ever written a story about?
A botched train robbery, in which the nine year-old assailant was carried off to heaven by angels, which in reality resemble flying jelly fish.
What's the last album you bought?
Marveilleuse by Edith Piaf.
DO NOT DISTURB!
What's your favorite way of getting around besides underground ladder tunnels?
Jetpack. If one is not available? Public transit.


You seem to like dressing up. Where do you find inspiration for your wardrobe?
Patrick McGoohan's The Prisoner and Mad Max Beyond Thunderdome.
Have you ever wondered what happens after we die?
All the time when I was a little kid. These days, not so much. I stopped caring and decided to focus on living.
What if we get reincarnated as animals? What would you come back as?
A gazelle.
R.I.P.

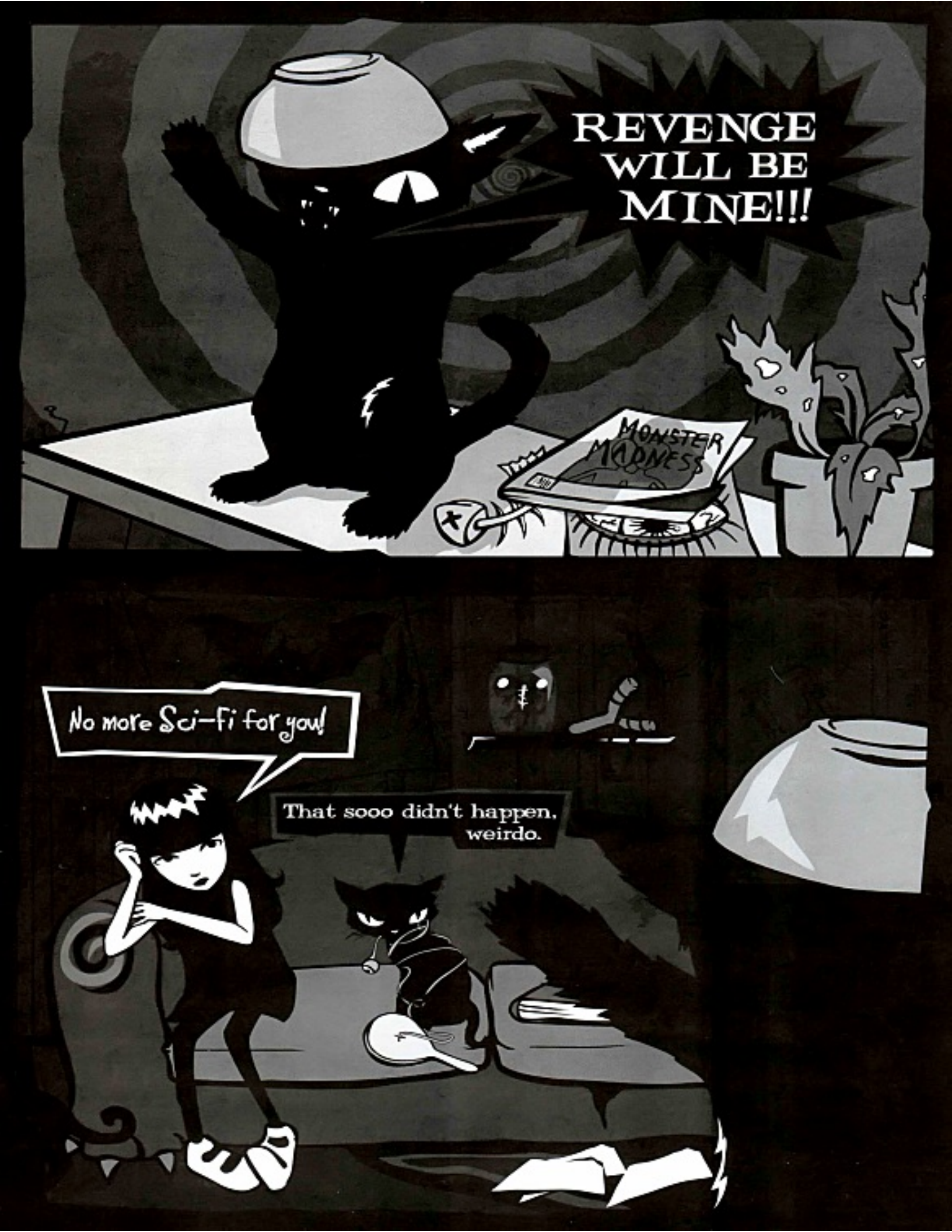
Have you ever met a zombie? How did you escape?
I've never met a zombie, but if I did I'd get away on a golf cart.
What was the last nightmare you had?
DRAWING ON YOUR NIGHTMARZ
I was swimming, and even though I wasn't drowning, there was no end to the water, no surface.
Do you have a favorite work of art?
Have you ever had too much to dream?
WHERE IS SHE? EMILY'S LATE WITH HER SCRIPT AGAIN!
The Lovers by Magritte. I saw it while in art school. Very scary.
I go through periods where I dream too much, sometimes half-awake, sometimes visions, terrors. Other times in my life I sleep peacefully. Those are my favorite times.
Let's go this way.

Now, remind me. How are we related again?
By marriage. Though we avoid consorting with that side of the family.
FRONT DESK
Have you ever had a Siamese twin?
I have several. Most of them are up to no good.
See you at the Academy!
I need to finish my story about revenge now. Maybe you can help.
Everything deserves a happy ending.
Even if it's a story about the end of the world, you should find some way to end it with a dozen roses.
Just throw a little sparkle all over it.
Be seeing you!
END

REVENGE OF THE DEAD EYE
So Miles, what really happened to your eye?
A Long Time Ago...

My friend doesn't like you, kitty.
I don't like YOU either!
And I don't like your face! GET LOST. Man.
ON

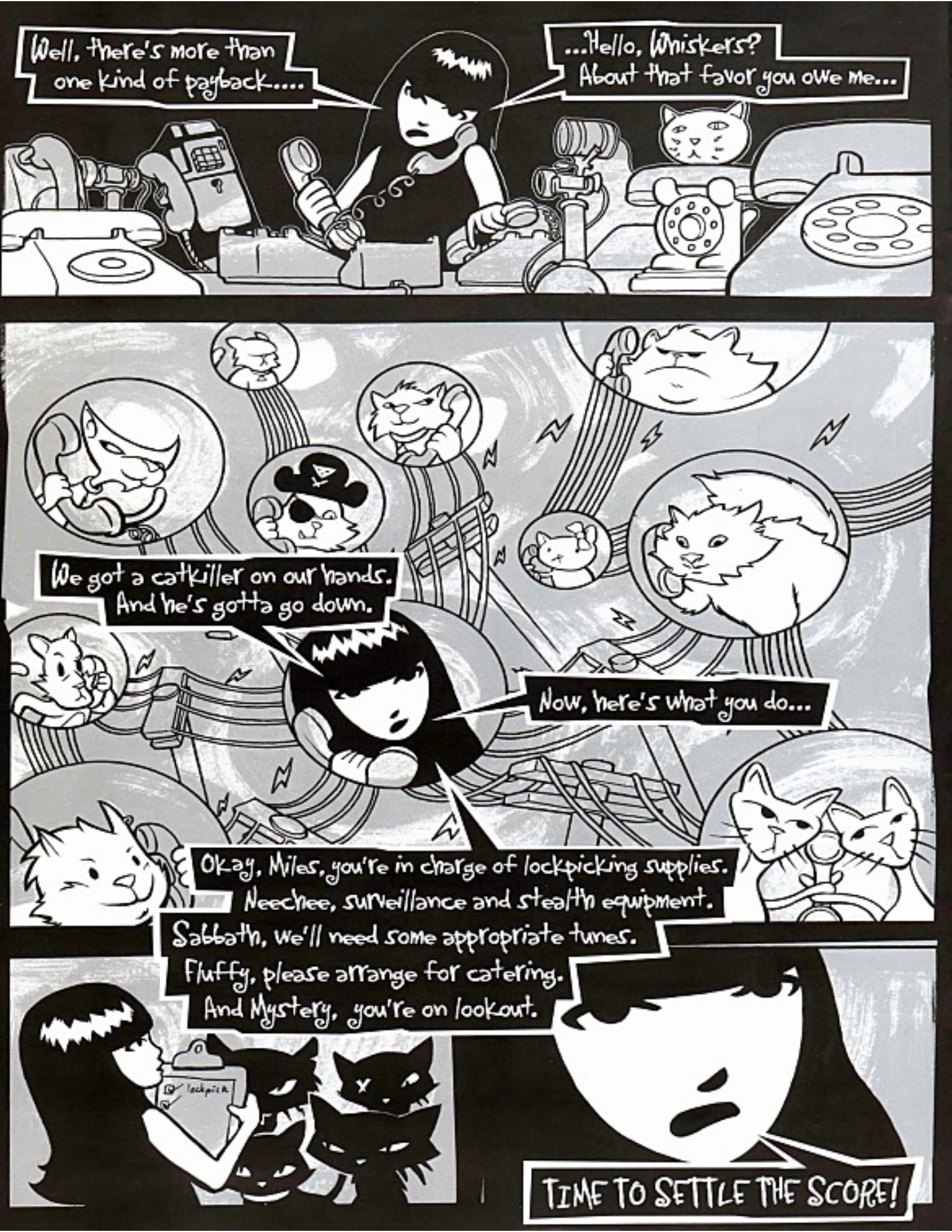
MINE!
Nooooo!


REVENGE WILL BE MINE!!!
MONSTER MADNESS
No more Sci-Fi for you!
That sooo didn't happen, weirdo.

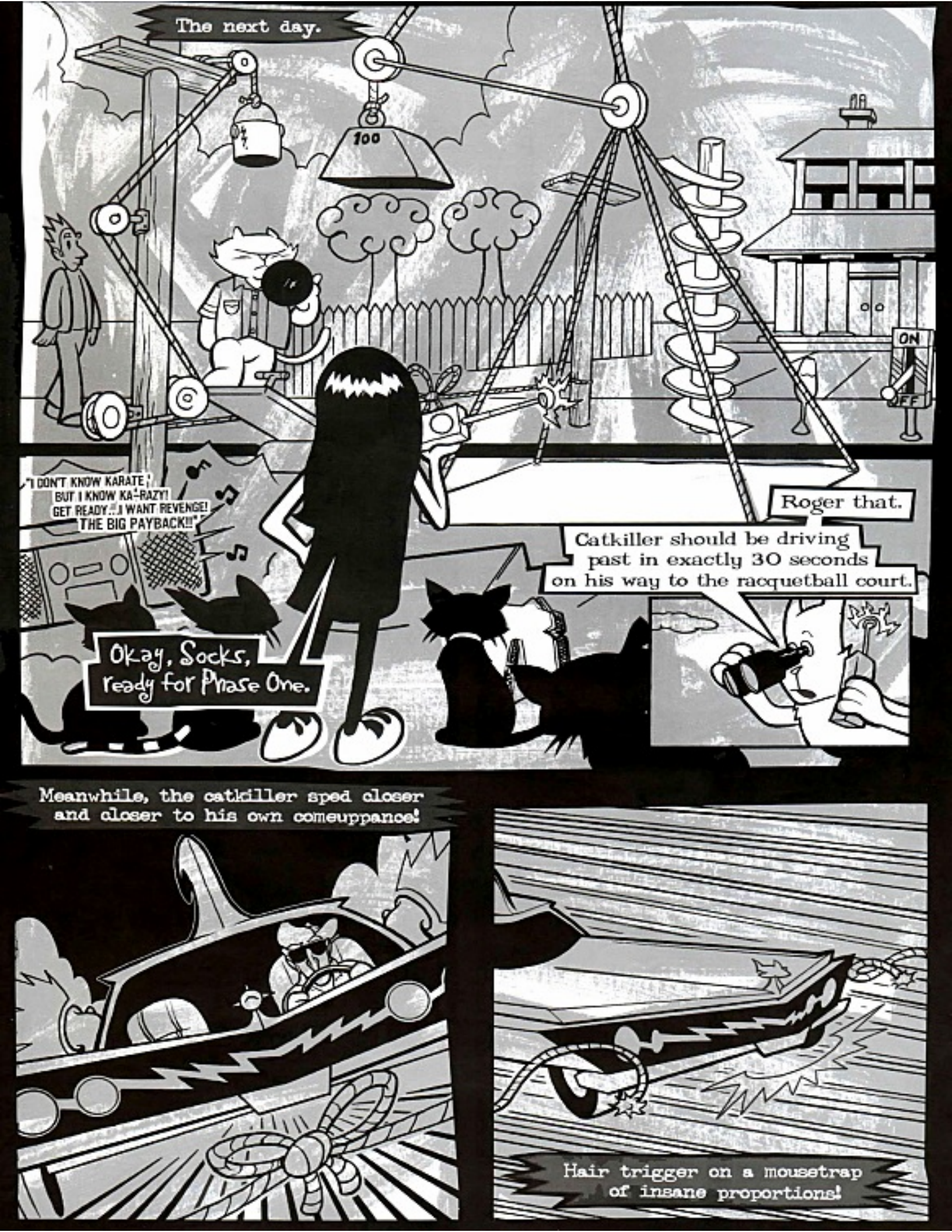
DEAD CAT WALKIN'

PART THREE REVENGE!

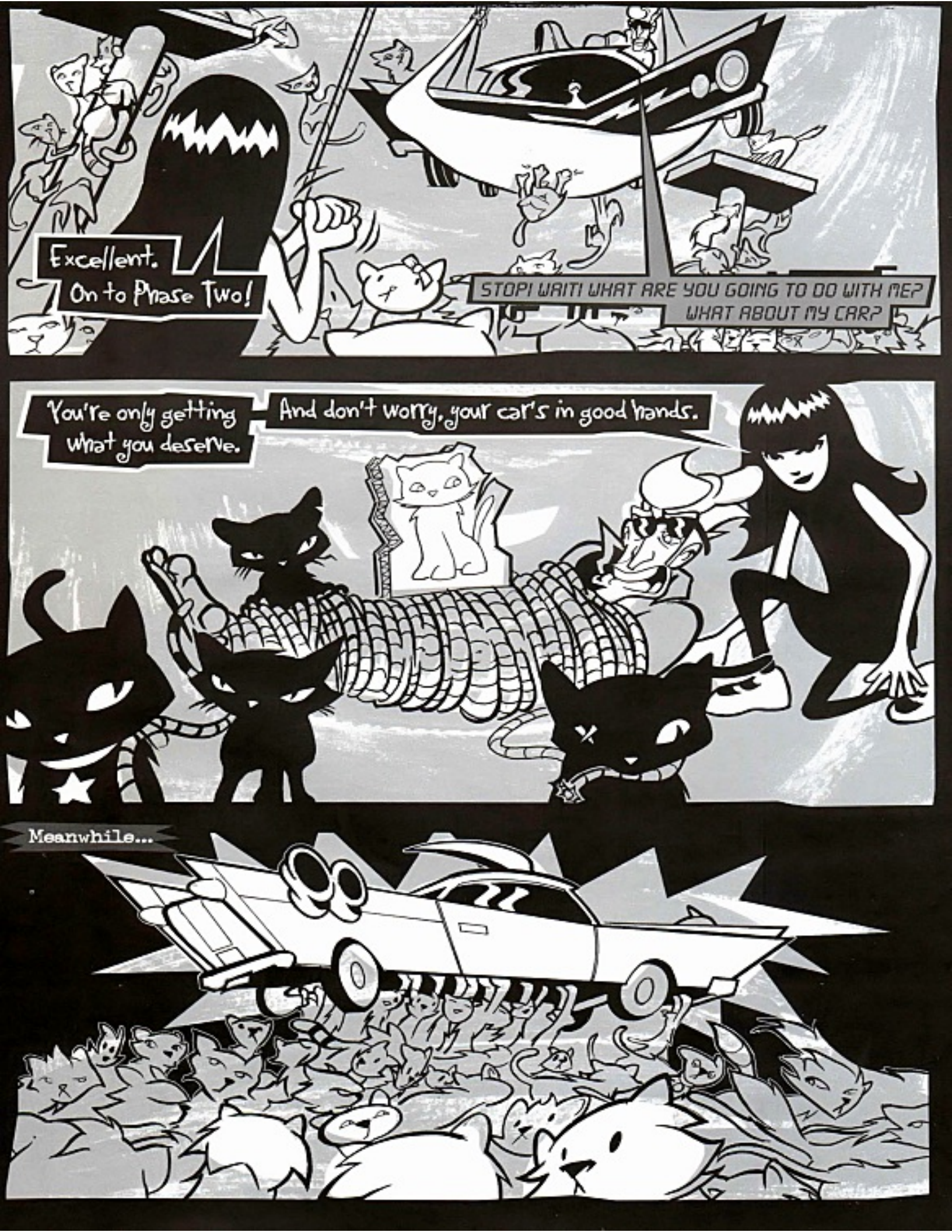
Emily had never worked so hard or waited so long for sweet revenge!
He ran over Fluffy, he destroyed my remote control robot woman...
DEATH
...AND he wears a backwards baseball cap.
REVENGE MUST BE MINE!!!!


Well, there's more than one kind of payback.....
...Hello, Whiskers? About that favor you owe me...
We got a catkiller on our hands. And he's gotta go down.
Now, here's what you do...
Okay, Miles, you're in charge of lockpicking supplies. Neechee, surveillance and stealth equipment. Sabbath, we'll need some appropriate tunes. Fluffy, please arrange for catering. And Mystery, you're on lookout.
lockpick
TIME TO SETTLE THE SCORE!

And all over town, cats worked late into the night to put Emily's diabolical revenge scheme into action.
OFF
ON


The next day.
100
ON
OFF
"I DON'T KNOW KARATE, BUT I KNOW KA-RAZY! GET READY...I WANT REVENGE! THE BIG PAYBACK!!"
Okay, Socks, ready for Phase One.
Roger that.
Catkiller should be driving past in exactly 30 seconds on his way to the racquetball court.
Meanwhile, the catkiller sped closer and closer to his own comeuppance!
Hair trigger on a mousetrap of insane proportions!

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
1 Thread snaps; bucket drops.
2 Teeter-totter launches bowling cat into the air.
3 Bowling cat bowls!
4 Bowling bowl breaks glass; water spills.
5 Passerby slips and kicks lever.
6 Lever releases the net, and--
7 The catkiller is trapped!

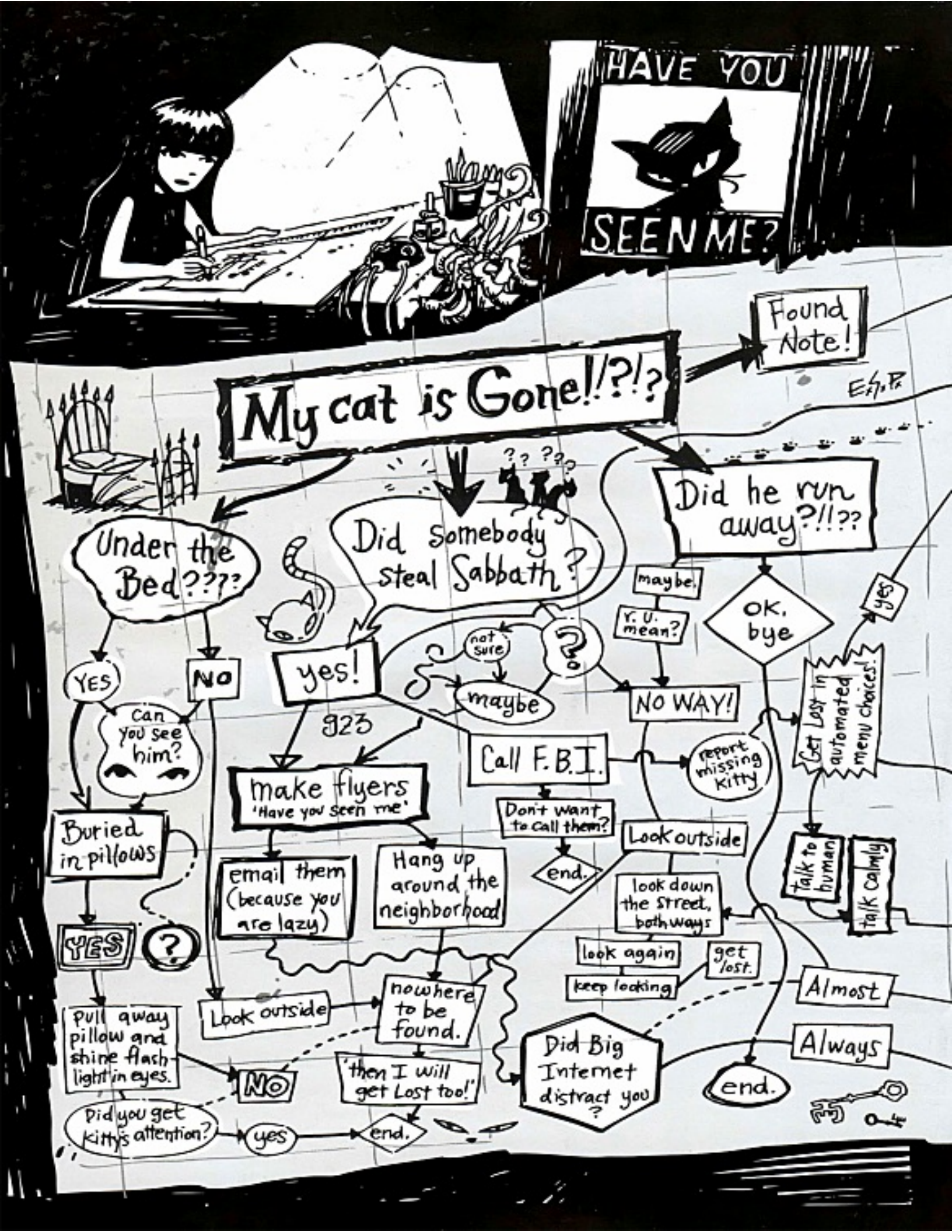

Excellent. On to Phase Two!
STOP! WAIT! WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH ME? WHAT ABOUT MY CAR?
You're only getting what you deserve.
And don't worry, your car's in good hands.
Meanwhile...

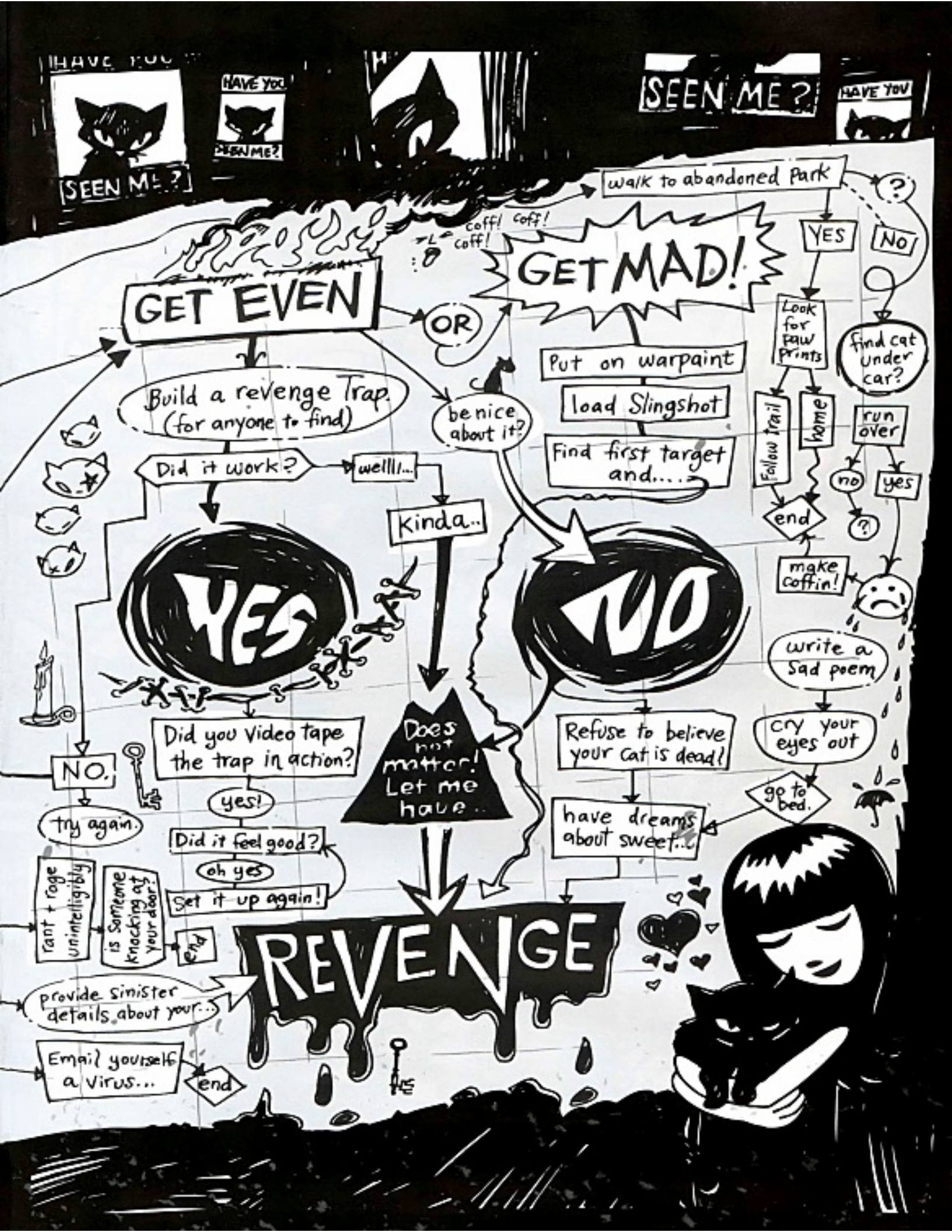
BIFF!
ZOWEE!
ZOT!
SOCKO!
DO NOT ENTER!
REVENGE SESSION IN PROGRESS!
KERRPOW!
BAM!
Ye Olde Vengeance Parlor
BLAT!
BLAMMO!
Much revenge later...
Next time I won't be so easy on you.
Now get last.
IP-P-PROMISE TO DRIVE MORE SAFELY AND N-N-NEVER WEAR MY CAP B-B-BACKWARD AGAIN!
Oh, and I believe the police want to see you about your car.
Extreme Vehicular Stinkiness, in violation of municipal code 47.c.9...
...that'll be $923.

See, you mess with the best, you reek like the rest.
A dish best served cold: ASPIC!
Great catering, Fluffy. But nothing's as delicious as sweet revenge, huh?
Meow meow meow meeow meow meow.
Yeah, I know. Sometimes revenge is not enough.
Will Fluffy ever find true peace? Or is she doomed to live her life trapped in cardboard?
WILL SHE EVER TASTE ASPIC AGAIN? Stay tuned for part IV, when you'll hear Emily say...
Oh, just leave me alone.

STRANGER BY NIGHT

Emily® the Strange


HAVE YOU SEEN ME?
My cat is Gone!!?!?
Found Note!
Did he run away?!!??
Did somebody steal Sabbath?
Under the Bed???
maybe.
R. U. mean?
OK. bye
yes
YES
NO
yes!
not sure
maybe
NO WAY!
Get Lost in automated menu choices!
can you see him?
923
Call F.B.I.
report missing kitty
make flyers 'Have you seen me'
Don't want to call them?
Look outside
Buried in pillows
email them (because you are lazy)
Hang up around the neighborhood
end.
look down the street, both ways
talk to human
talk calmly
YES
look again
get lost.
keep looking
Almost
Look outside
nowhere to be found.
Pull away pillow and shine flash light in eyes.
Did Big Internet distract you?
Always
NO
'then I will get Lost too!'
end.
Did you get kitty's attention?
yes
end.

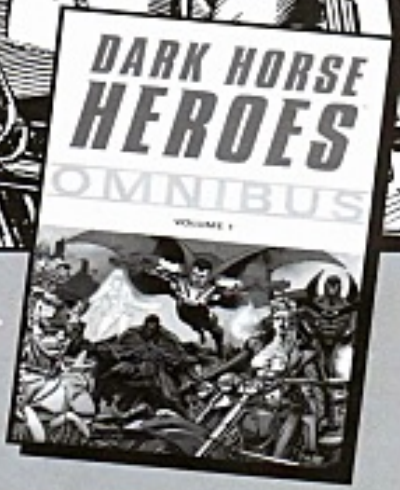

HAVE YOU SEEN ME?
HAVE YOU SEEN ME?
HAVE YOU SEEN ME?
HAVE YOU
coff! coff! coff!
GET EVEN
OR
GET MAD!
walk to abandoned park
?
YES
NO
Look for paw prints
find cat under car?
Put on warpaint
load Slingshot
Find first target and....
Build a revenge Trap (for anyone to find)
be nice about it?
Did it work?
well!!...
Kinda..
Follow trail
home
run over
no
yes
end
?
make coffin!
YES
NO
write a sad poem
cry your eyes out
Refuse to believe your cat is dead!
go to bed.
have dreams about sweet...
Does not matter! Let me have..
Did you video tape the trap in action?
NO.
yes!
try again.
Did it feel good?
oh yes
Set it up again!
rant + rage unintelligibly
is Someone knocking at your door?
end
REVENGE
provide sinister details about your...
Email yourself a virus...
end

TRIP OUT #7 by Turo 'Scissorhands'

X™ PIT BULLS™ GHOST™ MONSTER™ REBEL™ MECHA™
TITAN™ GRACE™ BARB WIRE™ THE MACHINE™

WHO IS YOUR DARK HORSE HERO?

CATALYST™ WOLF GANG™ MOTORHEAD™ DIVISION 13™
HERO ZERO™ KING TIGER™ THE VORTEX™ THE SCREAM™



DISCOVER THEM INSIDE

Featuring the creative talents of Mike Richardson, Randy Stradley, Chris Warner, Adam Hughes, Paul Chadwick, Paul Gulacy, and more!

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THE STRANGE EXCHANGE

Hey Strangers,

Welcome back to the back of the book. Hey, haven't I seen you somewhere before? You look mighty famili . . . wait. Are you the one who stole Christmas Pony off the handlebars of my bike two years ago? 'Cause you look a little guilty, and I've been looking for the jerk who stole Christmas Pony forever now. Know why? Because I want REVENGE!

Actually, what I really want is Christmas Pony back, but since I seriously doubt the butthead who took her will ever let her come home, I've spent the last two years thinking of ways to get revenge on whoever stole her should I ever meet the goon in a dark alley somewhere.

We tend to think too quickly toward revenge as a solution to every problem, when in fact it's the kind of thing that should be reserved only for situations that truly deserve it. Getting revenge just as retaliation doesn't always satisfy. But if your vengeance yields something useful—like teaching a lesson—then it may be worth it. I think this is why so many bands have written songs about revenge, 'cause they know that's better than the real thing.

So, if you're someone who's ever felt the urge to seek revenge against some bad someone for some bad something they've done for you, maybe you could just make yourself a good mix CD featuring some of the truly awesome songs about revenge that other people have been busy writing. I've made a list here of some of my favorites and some of Emily's too:

JUDAS PRIEST—"Screaming for Vengeance," from *Screaming for Vengeance*
THE MEKONS—two songs, actually: "Revenge" and "Vengeance," both from *So Good It Hurts*
NO MEANS NO—"Revenge," from *Sex Mad*
GENERATION X—"Revenge," from *Kiss Me Deadly*
PATTI SMITH GROUP—"Revenge," from *Wave*
BLACK FLAG—"Revenge," from *Everything Went Black*
C AVERAGE—"Revenge," from *Give the People What They Want*
DEAD MOON—"Revenge," from *13 Off My Hook*
EURYTHMICS—"Revenge," from *In the Garden*
THE KINKS—"Revenge," from *You Really Got Me*
MAD SIN—"Revenge," from *Survival of the Sickest*
WHITE ZOMBIE—"Revenge," from *Make them Die Slowly*
GOBLIN COCK—"Revenge of Snufalufagus," from *Bagged and Boarded*
ARCHERS OF LOAF—"Revenge," from *Seconds Before the Accident*
MOTORHEAD—"Sweet Revenge," from *Bomber*
MY CHEMICAL ROMANCE—an entire album called *Three Cheers for Sweet Revenge*
THE DECEMBERISTS—"The Mariner's Revenge Song," from *Picaresque*
THE VANDALS—"Failure is the Best Revenge," from *Quickening*

Now, I'm not saying that's in any way a complete list of revenge-inspired songs, but it'll give you a place to start should the need arise for such a compilation to exist.

Anyway, now it's time for me to shut up and turn over these pages to a few of our readers who sent in some cool fan art. Thanks to everyone who sent in their creations.

So long, strangers . . . see you on the outside.

Shawna

Shawna

WRITE TO US AT:
strangeexchange@darkhorse.com

The Strange Exchange
10956 SE Main Street
Milwaukie, OR 97222

Art by **Assunta Cicalese**
of Portland, Oregon.
(Woo! Portland! —Ed.)

A very strange birthday cake made by
Verusca Walker of New South Wales, Australia.

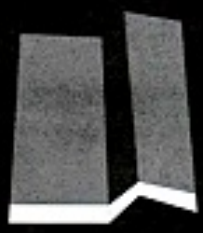
Art by **Stephanie Stevens** of
Land of the Superbly Strange.

Art this page by **Taylor Grumble**
of DeLeon, Texas.

Emily's STRANGE FOLD-IN

WHAT DARK SUPER POWER HOLDS ALL THE ANSWERS?

A►



LIKE THIS!

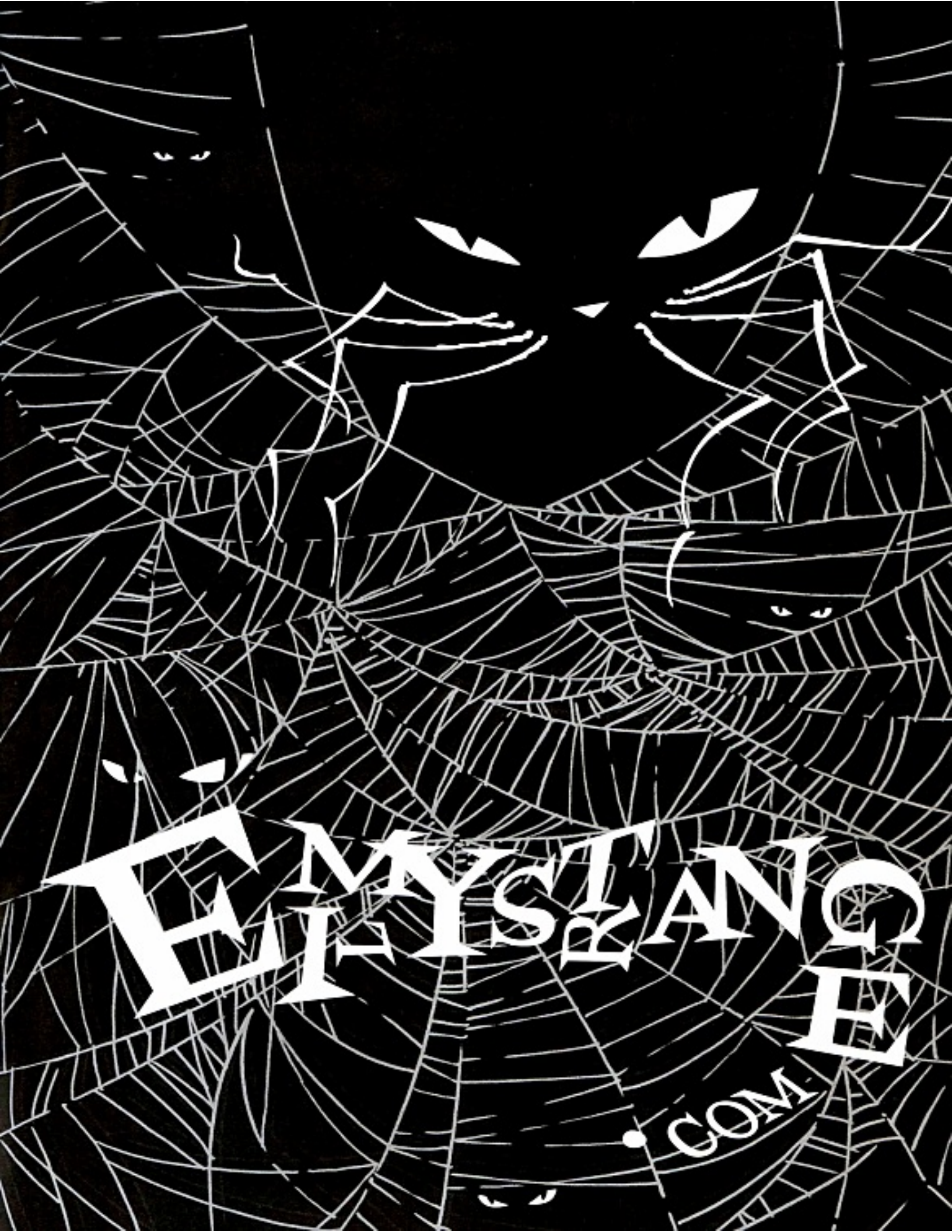
◄B

FOLD PAGE OVER SO "A" MEETS "B"

MYRIADS OF EMILY'S POSSE HAVE SEARCHED TO BE LOST– SO WHAT STRANGE BEAST CONTROLS EMILY'S EVERY MOVE?

A►

◄B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with cold liquid

with hot liquid

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MIKE MIGNOLA RECENTLY CAME TO PORTLAND TO RAID THE SHELVES AT POWELL'S BOOKS, THE THING HE MISSES MOST AFTER HAVING LIVED HERE. He also managed to come by Dark Horse and help me finalize the *Hellboy Companion*. After Mike got a tour of our book-design department, he said, "It's scary seeing *everybody* working on *Hellboy* books . . ." There *is* a movie coming, and we're doing all the publishing related to it—not to mention a steady diet of *Hellboy* comics and trades. Watch as the character rises more prominently in the pop (or *pulp*) culture hive mind—more mentions on reality shows? *Hellboy* art used as props on more dramas? New readers flocking to the books?

Mike and I visited Dave Stewart at his palatial studio, and he showed us an *Iron Man* series by Eric Canete, a fantastic artist with whom Dave's struck the perfect color approach. A couple minutes looking at Dave's screen was all it took to get Mike and me to contact Eric ourselves. You should be seeing a Mignola/Canete collaboration in the next year.

Dave's house is generously decorated with artwork—comic art, pop poster art, and oil paintings. But it was something else that caught Mike's eye: antique anatomy posters. The posters you see nowadays are nothing compared to the old ones, beautifully painted, with captions in Latin. Over Dave's entryway hangs an enormous framed piece, twelve feet by seven feet, of squids. It would've left Lovecraft shivering in a cold tub, staring to the window with contempt and fear at the unkind and menacing universe. I'm pretty sure some of the animals in this poster are made up, but it was the colors that caught Mike's eye. We spent the night talking about a project Mike's gearing up to draw. He told Dave, "When we're working on that thing, every color you're gonna need is in that octopus poster."

Finalizing the *Hellboy Companion* has been a nightmare. We had no idea what we were getting into, creating an encyclopedia of the *Hellboy* world. Crafting the individual "life" stories of each character to read as concise, linear narratives, without destroying the mystery, wasn't easy. Setting every important event—and, let's face it, a lot of unimportant ones—on a timeline has driven us crazy. Rachel Edidin's hair color has changed seven times since beginning work on the book. There are a lot of people to thank for getting this info right . . . but we'll save that for the book.

Then came the juggling act of illustrating the book. Mike had done a dozen or so new drawings for the book. We spread those drawings—along with a hundred other drawings pulled from every *Hellboy* and *B.P.R.D.* series since the beginning—on the floor of Mike's hotel room, selecting images, placing them in a sequence, pulling them back out and onto the floor, until after two days in the room we had the book.

So for the next few months, enjoy an embarrassment of riches in *Hellboy* publishing. The long-awaited *Hellboy* hardcover program is starting, with the first two *Hellboy* series in one massive hardcover, 9" x 12", with some fifty pages of sketch material. *Darkness Calls* is getting collected, also with a bountiful sketchbook section. Johann's origin is explored in *B.P.R.D.: The Ectoplasmic Man*. I don't have room to mention all of it here, so camp out in your local comic shop during the months of May through July, and look for some great comics from Mike and his cohorts.

Scott Allie

editor

DARK HORSE HEROES

Michael Ring, owner of the Portland, Oregon, shop Bridge City Comics, tends to overuse the word "awesome," and one of his biggest dislikes is the dismissal of comics as mere "kids' stuff," an annoyance that may have inspired his motto "Comics for the People." Which is a pretty "awesome" motto.

Stan Sakai, who has been working on his Eisner Award–winning series *Usagi Yojimbo* for nearly twenty-five years, is a fan of detective fiction. Favorites include Max Allan Collins's Nate Heller books, and the 87th Precinct books by Ed McBain, but his favorite fictional character is the renowned, the astute, the brilliant detective Sherlock Holmes.

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Whether you prefer yours ice cold
or simmering to a well-plotted boil.

REVENGE

is a dish that everyone
cooks up at some point.

In this issue Emily serves up
her favorite recipes for vengeance.
as well as a cautionary tale. a pointer or two.
and some delicious insight from

Gerard Way
of
My Chemical Romance!

Plus: Trip Out Art by the amazing
Turo Scissorhands!

A Sea

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